

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Michael A. Harclow  
Dustin C. Kirkland  
David B. Kumhyr  
Kylene J. Smith

Serial No.: 10/713,743

Filed: November 13, 2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR CONDUCTING A  
CONFIDENTIAL SEARCH

Group Art Unit: 2432

Examiner: Venkatanaray Perungavoor

Conf. No.: 2691

Atty. Dkt.: AUS920030914US1  
2300.000200

CUSTOMER NO. 46240

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 3, 2008**

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated December 3, 2008. The three-month response date is March 3, 2009. This response is being filed less than two months from the mailing date of the action, therefore, Applicants are entitled to an Advisory Action. M.P.E.P. §706.07(f).

If an extension of time is required to enable this paper to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this paper is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

No fee(s) is believed to be due as a result of this response. However, should any other fee(s) under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from PTO Deposit Account No. 09-0447/AUS920030914US1.